

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SWF-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

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STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-01 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SS-15

NSC-05 OIC-02 IO-10 NEA-06 /080 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6380

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 18114

(CORRECTED COPY, 7TH LINE PARA 3 OMMITTED ON
ORIGINAL TRANSMISSION)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, GW

SUBJECT: PREPARATIONS FOR EC SUMMIT: NOV. 18 FOREIGN
MINISTERS' MEETING

1. CHIEF OF FONOFF DESK DEALING WITH EC POLITICAL
COOPERATION, VON DER GABLENTZ, TELLS US THAT NOV. 18
MEETING WAS DEVOTED TO FURTHER WORK ON INSTITUTIONS
PAPER; A DECISION WITH REGARD TO KEEPING GREECE INFORMED
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OF EC DEVELOPMENTS; AND DISCUSSION OF PA1ESTINIAN

QUESTION, BOTH IN UN AND IN EC-ARAB DIALOGUE. THIS MESSAGE COVERS FIRST TWO. PALESTINIAN QUESTION TREATED IN SEPTTEL.

2. GABLENTZ SAID ONLY CONCRETE PROGRESS WITH REGARD TO INSTITUTIONS WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT MEETINGS OF HEADS OF STATE WOULD TAKE PLACE "IN THE COUNCIL". THIS CORRESPONDED TO GERMAN VIEW THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE ABLE TO MEET IN A VARIETY OF COMPOSITIONS. IT AVOIDED THE CREATION OF A NEW INSTITUTION, AND IT WAS NOW CLEAR THAT THERE WOULD BE NO NEW SECRETARIAT TO SERVICE THE MEETINGS AT THE TOP LEVEL.

3. BRITISH RESERVATIONS REGARDING EUROPEAN UNION, MAJORITY VOTING IN THE COUNCIL, AND DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT WERE FURTHER CLARIFIED AND CONFIRMED. ON THE VOTING QUESTION, CALLAGHAN HAD WANTED TO INTRODUCE INTO THE INSTITUTIONS PAPER A REFERENCE TO THE "LUXEMBOURG COMPROMISE" OF 1966, BUT THIS WAS FIRMLY REJECTED BY GENSCHER. THE GERMANS REGARD THIS AS NO COMPROMISE AT ALL BUT RATHER AS AN AGREEMENT TO DISAGREE -- A DICTATE OF DE GAULLE'S THAT THE OTHERS HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO ACCEPT AT THE TIME BUT WHICH ALL EXCEPT THE BRITISH ARE NOW AGREED IS NO LONGER A DESIRABLE BASIS FOR COMMUNITY DECISION MAKING. CALLAGHAN'S POSITION, APPARENTLY, WAS THAT BRITAIN HAD ENTERED THE EC ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE LUXEMBOURG COMPROMISE WOULD CONTINUE IN EFFECT.

4. GABLENTZ IS RELUCTANT TO PREDICT HOW THE QUESTION OF INSTITUTIONS WILL FINALLY BE HANDLED AT THE SUMMIT, BUT WHAT THE GERMANS SEEM TO BE AIMING FOR IS GENERAL AGREEMENT ON A PAPER WITH CERTAIN EXPLICITLY FORMULATED BRITISH RESERVATIONS RELATING TO RENEGOTIATION AND TO THE PROJECTED REFERENDUM ON EC MEMBERSHIP.

5. WITH REGARD TO GREECE, GABLENTZ NOTED THAT IT WAS EC PRACTICE TO PROVIDE REGULAR BRIEFINGS ON POLITICAL COOPERATION SUBJECTS FOR THOSE ASSOCIATED STATES WHICH AIMED AT ULTIMATE MEMBERSHIP. THIS WAS DONE, FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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EXAMPLE, WITH TURKEY BUT HAD BEEN SUSPENDED IN THE CASE OF GREECE DURING THE TENURE OF THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT. THE EC MINISTERS DECIDED ON NOVEMBER 18 TO RESUME REGULAR BRIEFINGS OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT ON THOSE MATTERS DISCUSSED IN THE EC WHICH ARE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO GREECE.
HILLENBRAND

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